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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/889,480	09/20/2001	Cristina Maria Mateo de Acosta Del Rio	P-23	4087

7590 10/28/2003

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EXAMINER

HELMS, LARRY RONALD

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1642

DATE MAILED: 10/28/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/889,480

Applicant(s)

MATEO DE ACOSTA DEL RIO ET AL.

Examiner

Larry R. Helms

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 August 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,5,7-14 and 16-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,7-14,16,18 and 19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5 and 17 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 2-4, 6 has been cancelled.
Claims 1, 5, 7-14 have been amended and claims 16-19 have been added.
Claims 1, 5, 7-19 are pending and under examination.
2. It is acknowledged that the substitute specification and the new sequence listing have been entered.
3. The text of those sections of Title 35 U.S.C. code not included in this office action can be found in a prior Office Action.
4. The following Office Action contains some NEW GROUNDS of rejection necessitated by amendment.

Rejections Withdrawn

5. The rejection of claims 1, 5, 7-14 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention is withdrawn in view of the amendments to the claims.
6. The rejection of claims 1, 5, 7-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, because the specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to use the invention, because the specification does not provide evidence that the claimed biological materials are (1) known and readily available to the public; (2) reproducible from the written description is

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withdrawn in view of the statements in the response of 8/21/03 which demonstrates deposit and all restrictions irrevocably removed.

7. The rejection of claims 1, 5, 7-14 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph is withdrawn in view of the amendments to the claims.

8. The rejection of claims 1, 7-14 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Iznaga Escobar et al (WO 97/33916, published 9/97, IDS #9) and as evidenced from the specification is withdrawn in view of the amendments to the claims.

Response to Arguments

9. The rejection of Claims 1, 7-14 and newly added claims 16, 18-19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iznaga Escobar et al (WO 97/33916, published 9/97, IDS #9) and further in view of Bird et al (Science 242:423-426, 1988) and Adair et al 9WO 91/09967, published 7/91) is maintained and made again.

The response filed 8/21/03 has been carefully considered but is deemed not to be persuasive. The response states the Escobar document does not provide any enabling disclosure to get humanized antibodies because of no sequence or deposited material and none of the previous publications have provided antibody variable region sequences which would allow any person to obtain such antibodies and although the previous art discloses IOR C5 as well as methods to humanize the humanization requires innovative steps and applicant has found that for VH residues 10, 17, should

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be replaced and other mutations such as those at 43 and 44 and a VK mutation at residues 15, 45, and 63 need to be substituted with specific amino acids (see page 12-13 of response). In response to this argument, Escobar et al teaches the IOR C5 antibody and chimeras and humanization. The antibody is assumed to be publicly available absent evidence to the contrary. Thus the art of Adair teaches obtaining the amino acid sequence of a variable light and heavy chain from the hybridoma and as such the sequence is then known. The art also teaches framework modifications for humanization and as such this meets the limitations of an antibody that comprises at least one point mutation wherein replacing the entire FR would result in meeting the limitation. With the hybridoma described in Escobar et al one could obviously obtain the cDNA and the amino acid sequence of the antibody IOR C5 and then humanize it by the method of Adair and also obtain a single chain antibody from the teachings of Bird et al.

Therefore, the invention as a whole was prima facie obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, as evidenced by the references.

Conclusion

10. No claim is allowed. Claims 5 and 16 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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11. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Larry R. Helms, Ph.D, whose telephone number is (703) 306-5879. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 4:30 pm, with alternate Fridays off. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anthony Caputa, can be reached on (703) 308-3995. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

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13. Papers related to this application may be submitted to Group 1600 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Group 1600 via the PTO Fax Center located in Crystal Mall 1. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). The CM1 Fax Center telephone number is (703) 308-4242.

Respectfully,

Larry R. Helms Ph.D.

703-306-5879



LARRY R. HELMS, PH.D
PRIMARY EXAMINER